

**WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. PERSONAL PROPERTY:** 30 slaves, 1776; assessed value £966.15.0, including 23 slaves and 45 oz. plate, 1783. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** 386 acres in Talbot County (all by purchase). **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** Gibson had inherited 150 acres from his father and had purchased 536 acres, all prior to his first election. In 1774 he gave 300 acres of this land by deed of gift to his son *Woolman Gibson, Jr.* (?-ca. 1798). **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** purchased 30 acres in Queen Anne's County, 1779. In 1789 Gibson bound himself to convey 165 acres in Talbot County, which were in the possession of his son *John Gibson III* (?-1819), and this tract was conveyed by his executors after his death. Without recording a deed, Gibson conveyed a mill and mill seat to his son *Woolman Gibson, Jr.* (?-ca. 1798). Three months before his death in 1790, he purchased 350 acres in Talbot and Queen Anne's counties, but paid only a small down payment on it. In his will Gibson directed that the 350 acres should be sold if necessary to discharge his contract with the seller, and his executors did dispose of it at public auction, with the purchaser being the previous owner of the tract. **WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED:** in May 1790 in Talbot County. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** TEV, £2,456.1.11 current money (including 53 slaves, 61 oz. plate, and books); FB, £2,230.12.7. **LAND:** 859 acres in Talbot and Queen Anne's counties.

**GIBSON, JOHN, III** (?-1819). **BORN:** in Talbot County, of age by 1783; younger son. **NATIVE:** at least fourth generation. **RESIDED:** in Talbot County; Anne Arundel County, 1795; Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, 1801; Baltimore City, 1811; Annapolis, 1813; on the Magothy River, Anne Arundel County, at death. **FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER:** *John Gibson* (?-1790). **MOTHER:** Elizabeth (?-1797). **UNCLE:** *Woolman Gibson* (?-1786). **BROTHER:** *Woolman Gibson, Jr.* (?-ca. 1798). **SISTERS:** Elizabeth; Mary (1766-1790), who married *Richard Tilghman* (1740-1809); and Anna. **MARRIED** in 1785 Ann Ogle (ca. 1766-1821), daughter of *John Ridout* (1732-1797); granddaughter of *Samuel Ogle* (1694-1752); niece of *Benjamin Ogle* (1748/49-1809). Her brothers were Samuel (ca. 1765-1840); Horatio. Her sister was Meliora Ogle (1780-1781). **CHILDREN. SONS:** John James; Horatio Samuel. **DAUGHTERS:** Maria E., who married in 1807 John Tilghman, of Talbot County; Ann Ogle. **PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION:** literate. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** Gent., 1793; Esq., 1795. **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** proba-

bly a planter; partner with Richard Caton and others in the Cape Sable Company in Anne Arundel County in 1812, which was formed to search for coal and other mineral ores on the company's land. The company was incorporated in 1818 to produce copperas and alum. *Charles Carroll of Carrollton* (1737-1832) held the land in trust for the owners. After Gibson's death, a court case arose involving the disposition of his one-third interest in the company, or 20 shares valued at \$20,000. Gibson entailed the shares to his heirs in 1815, then allegedly sold them to Alexander Mitchell in 1817. Richard Caton stated that he had been the sole purchaser of the company lands, that Gibson was merely his agent, and that he was included in the company only out of Caton's kindness and goodwill. Caton said he knew Gibson "to be poor, but a man whose integrity and worth" had led him to grant Gibson shares in the company. One of the company's creditors deposed that Gibson's "credit and reputation" was "at too low an ebb" to be of any help to the company in terms of loans or other means of raising capital. According to Caton, however, Gibson proved deceitful and dishonest by applying to his own use "several and large sums of money which Caton had confidently placed in his hands" for the use of the company. In reply, the chancellor in the court case said that Gibson appeared to have discovered some coal or other valuable minerals on a tract of land on the Magothy River in Anne Arundel County. Gibson informed Caton of his discovery and together they bought the land. Therefore, the titles of neither were due to the generosity of the other, but to the good management of a fortunate find. Whether the shares belonged to Gibson's heirs or to the man he supposedly sold them to was not resolved, however, because the company's property had to be sold to pay its creditors. **PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE:** Lower House, Talbot County, 1784, 1786-1787 (Claims 1). **LOCAL OFFICES:** militia recruiting officer, Talbot County, appointed 1778; register of wills, Talbot County, 1787-1792; justice, Anne Arundel County, 1794-at least 1800. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. PERSONAL PROPERTY:** assessed value £218.0.0, including 6 slaves, 1783; £1,000.0.0 current money devised to his wife from her father, 1797; assessed value £1,390.0.0, including 50 slaves and 13.10 oz. plate, Talbot County, 1798; 35 slaves, Anne Arundel County, 1798; one-third interest in the Cape Sable Company valued at \$20,000, including land and other company property, 1813. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** controlled 137 acres in Talbot County (actual ownership of